



The Development of Combat Power and Efficiency

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Through the Many Facets of Aerospace Medicine

Wing earns fifth Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Brooks history received a double dose of milestones Aug. 25 when the historic leadership transition ceremony also served to showcase another unprecedented event: the 311th Human System Wing receiving its fifth consecutive Air Force Outstanding Unit Award.

Brig. Gen. Ted Bowlds, the Aeronautical Systems Center's deputy director for acquisition, presented the Air Force's prestigious award to the outgoing 311th HSW commander Brig. Gen. Tom Travis.

"I wanted to have this award presented today because of what you have done as an organization. I couldn't be more proud of the 311th Human Systems Wing," said Brig. Gen. Travis. He characterized the 311th as a great organization with one heartbeat, saying that the Wing's spirit, enthusiasm and professionalism contributed to the great things that have been done here over the past five years.

The Wing won the award for actions

completed during 2004. The 311th was cited for "extraordinary contributions to the U.S. Armed Forces and international allies by ensuring overwhelmingly effective warfighters through world-class force health protection, expeditionary medical education and training, and state-of-the-art human-support systems."

These contributions, the award citation noted, supported America's global war on terrorism while also provided U.S. forces the means to help rebuild war-torn Iraq. The 311th also earned the award on the strength of Brooks expertise having "directly contributed to a landmark study by the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board which radically changed human systems integration execution in the Air Force."

The significance of the 311th HSW winning five consecutive awards is bolstered by the fact that no Brooks organization had won as many in the history of this awards program.

Seconds after Eric Stephens became the Wing's first civilian director, he exclaimed, "Five unit awards. Wow!"



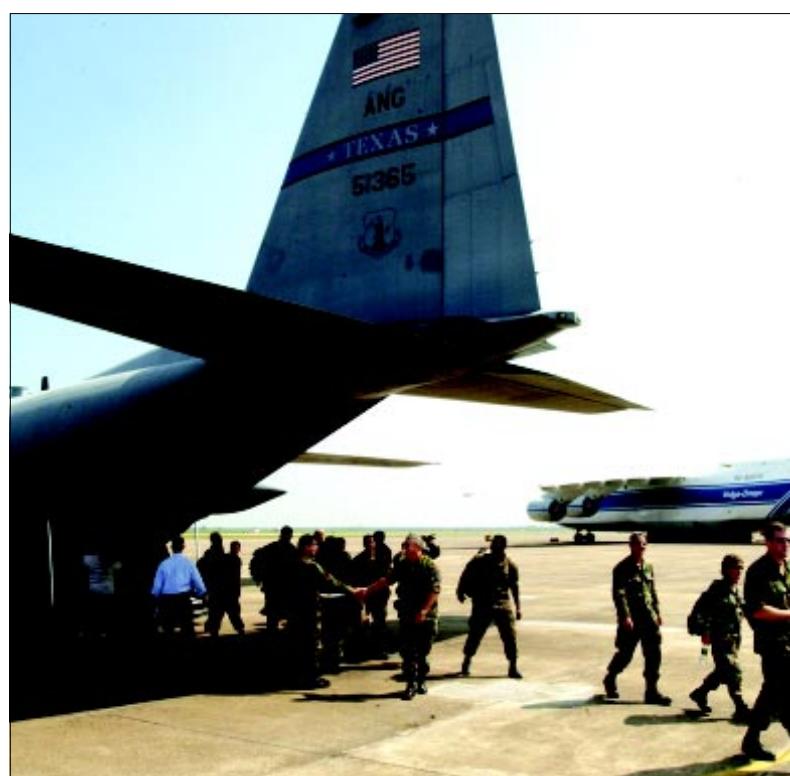
Photo by Tech. Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

Brig. Gen. Ted F. Bowlds (left), Deputy Director of Acquisition, Aeronautical Systems Center, presents the Outstanding Unit Award to Brig. Gen. Tom Travis, former 311th Human Systems Wing commander. It is the fifth consecutive year the wing has earned the award.

Inaugurated by the Secretary of the Air Force on Jan. 6, 1954, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award is presented

annually for outstanding meritorious service or outstanding achievement that clearly sets a unit apart from similar units.

Air Force mobilizes for Hurricane Rita



Air Force photo

After 19 days of supporting the Hurricane Katrina relief effort in New Orleans, Airmen from the 147th Fighter Wing returned home Monday to prepare for Hurricane Rita. If Hurricane Rita makes a damaging landfall, a base spokesman said the Airmen will stand poised to render help in the Houston area.

By Louis Arana-Barradas

Air Force Print News

As Hurricane Rita churns through the Gulf of Mexico, the Air Force is mobilizing forces in anticipation of the storm hitting the Texas Gulf Coast.

The Category 5 hurricane — some are already calling it a

"monster storm" — could make landfall near Galveston by late today or early tomorrow, National Hurricane Center officials said. The storm's winds have already reached 165 mph.

Galveston, which is about 50 miles south of Houston, is on a 2-mile wide barrier island. City officials there have already or-

dered the city evacuated. Others along the coast are also packing up and leaving.

In the meantime, U.S. Northern Command is ready to respond to requests for help by the Federal Emergency Management Agency before, or in the wake of the hurricane, command officials said. Forces will deploy where needed, officials said.

Thousands of troops are still helping FEMA with relief and recovery efforts along the Louisiana and Mississippi Gulf Coast ravaged by Hurricane Katrina three weeks ago. Northern Command is working to develop plans to reposition some of those troops to other areas, officials said.

As the hurricane nears Texas, military members and their families at bases along the Gulf Coast face evacuation to Lackland Air Force Base. That could happen at any time, said Wayne Bryant, a Lackland spokesman. Those people will evacuate to Lackland.

"This is the reception point for military personnel and their families from installations along the Gulf Coast," Mr. Bryant said. "Lackland has set up an evacuee reception center to process those families who arrive. We'll provide housing, food and medical assistance, if required."

He said from 3,000 to 3,500 people could arrive in the next few days. This is not a new mission at the base. It was the reception point for thousands of Hurricane Katrina evacuees. Airmen there received 89 flights in 55 hours carrying more than 9,700 people during the Labor Day holiday weekend. San Antonio provided refuge for the displaced people from New Orleans.

With this latest hurricane just days away, the military has a defense coordinating officer and a defense coordinating element on the ground in Austin, Texas. Their job is to liaison between Northern Command and FEMA and with other federal and state agencies.

The command also announced it is ready to use Fort Sam Houston here as a staging base. Officials are now identifying helicopters for use in damage assessment and medical support.

As events continue unfolding, thousands of Airmen around the nation are getting ready to provide search and rescue, airlift, logistics, communications and medical support as needed. However, others are getting out of the path of the storm. Many responded to the Hurricane Katrina relief effort.

At Lackland, the Air Force Reserve's 433rd Airlift Wing is evacuating its fleet of C-5 Galaxy aircraft to Biggs Army Airfield in El Paso, Texas. The Air National Guard's 149th Fighter Wing, also at the base, is sending its F-16 Fighting Falcons elsewhere, but wing officials said the site was not yet determined.

About 10 miles southeast of Houston at Ellington Field the Guard's fighter wing is also sending its F-16s to another location.

"Everyone around us is evacuating," said Master Sgt. Marcus Falleaf, a wing spokesman. "The traffic getting out of the city is terrible" as people evacuating Galveston transit the city.

"But we're still airlifting evacuees from Hurricane Katrina from here," he said. "We'll keep doing that until we have to leave," Sergeant Falleaf said.

The sergeant said a 75-member team will remain on the base and "ride out the storm." Another team of about 30 people will leave their homes Sunday and return to the base to help the other Airmen "start any cleanup that might be needed," he said.

Air Mobility Command at Scott AFB, Ill., is ready to continue supporting hurricane relief operations, said Maj. Mike Coleman, a command spokesman.



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COMMENTARY



POWs and MIAs — you are not forgotten

By Capt. Vince King

49 Fighter Wing Public Affairs, Holloman Air Force Base, N.M.

Sept. 16 marks another day in history where we remember and commemorate the lives of our fellow Airmen, Sailors, Marines, Soldiers and civilians, and reflect upon their extraordinary sacrifices made on behalf of this country.

This is a time to remember the faces of the prisoners of war and the missing in action, recall the names of those still missing and to reaffirm the pledge our nation's leaders have made to account for every service member who did not come home. When they joined the armed services, they dedicated their lives to protect all that made this country what it is today.

To heart, they took the true meaning of our heritage, to include the Armed Forces Code of Conduct. These articles address the situations and decision areas that, to some degree, all military personnel could encounter. These articles include basic information which American POWs relied upon in their struggle to survive while

captured and to continue their efforts to escape by all means necessary.

The men and women of this country have served bravely and with much confidence in various wars, to include the present fight in Afghanistan, Iraq and other theaters of the war on terror, knowing that, if they do fall in battle, our nation will do everything in its power to bring them home.

Throughout history, Americans have stood ready against those who would threaten all that we believe in. We continue to defend the principles of freedom and liberty in wars throughout the world while helping others to accomplish and receive the same freedoms we hold dearly to our hearts.

Many endured unimaginable hardships as prisoners of war, while others remain unaccounted for. Our nation's senior leaders demand a full accounting.

Let us rededicate our efforts in honoring them and the sacrifices they made. For one moment, I ask that all Airmen stop, pause and from the heart remember our fallen heroes and tell them, "You are not forgotten."

A zany, chaotic robot rally race

(Editor's note: This article is one in a continuing series of articles highlighting the best board game alternatives for classic yet tired games like Monopoly, Clue and Risk.)

By Kendahl Johnson

Discovery editor

RoboRally was initially published in 1995. Because the game was out of print yet still somewhat popular, it was difficult to find a copy for a reasonable price. Avalon Hill solved that problem in July, when it reprinted the game, making it again available to the general public.

In RoboRally, each player controls one of eight robots. The object of the game is to move your robot around a factory floor, avoiding other robots as well as board pitfalls such as lasers, pits and other traps. Robots touch several checkpoints, or rally flags placed throughout the factory. The winner of the game is the first player to touch all flags in order.

Movement is dictated by program cards. At the start of the game, players each receive nine program cards. They choose five of these cards and queue them into their robot's register. Cards are revealed simultaneously and moves are resolved (each movement card has a priority number that determines which robot moves first). The program cards have simple movement commands, including moving one, two or three spaces, rotating left, right or 180 degrees or backing up one space. The board also has movement spaces, including normal and express conveyor belts, rotating gears and pushers.

Each robot is equipped with a laser, which fires at the end of each movement phase. In addition, there are several board elements that can cause damage and even terminate a robot. When a player receives five damage markers, their program cards begin being locked into their register and they receive fewer movement cards to plan movement until eventually their robot is terminated, losing one of three life markers. A player falling off the edge of the board or into a pit is also terminated.

Robots do have the ability to power down for a turn. Although they cannot move while powered down, which can be dangerous and possibly even deadly, powering down removes all damage markers from a robot and will allow a robot to clear out locked program cards and start fresh.

Option Cards: The game comes with 26 option cards, or upgrades for the robots. The options are very interesting and creative and enhance gameplay tremendously. The problem, however, is that it is too difficult to earn these upgrades. A player must finish a turn on a special repair site and most boards have just one of these special squares, making it difficult to introduce these cards into play. Special house rules involving option cards have the potential for making the game more interesting.

Game length: Because you must plan four or five moves ahead, there is a tendency to overanalyze possible movements, thus dragging out the game. To solve this problem, the game comes with a 30-second timer that is activated when one remaining person has yet to

set his or her program cards. This penalizes the slow players and forces the game to move at a decent pace. A four-player game lasts just over an hour.

Strategy: RoboRally leans more to the tactical side than the strategy side. However, making the most of each turn takes precise planning and forethought. Also, it's easy to lose track of what the other players are doing which increases the chances of them foiling your plans. There are few strategic decisions to be made as usually the cards dealt will dictate which path to take.

Interaction: Although engaging interaction between players is at a minimum, plenty of interaction takes place on the board between player's robots. Because robots can push and shoot each other, the game only gets really interesting when playing with several people. It is always satisfying to make a sneaky maneuver and blast your buddies. And no matter how well you plan your turn, someone else may push you a space and cause you to walk directly into a pit or laser. In one game, a player pushed two robots off the edge of the board in one turn causing moans, groans and a little laughter. (The best fun, however, is watching an opponent react when he realizes he placed the wrong program card, rotated left instead of right and is now headed off the board.)

Replayability: RoboRally offers endless possibilities. First, there are eight different boards to choose from. There are also two different starting tracks, which can be placed on any of the four sides of a playing board. Included with the rulebook is a 40-page course manual with 34 different course layouts that players can choose from when starting a new game. These are neatly organized by difficulty, length and optimum number of players. The manual also includes several team courses that offer players a chance to play as teammates. Or players can design their own courses with their own rally flag placements.

Since the game lends itself to easy rules modifications, players can also experiment with different rules that meet their group's needs. For example, if you are in the mood for destruction, you can have a battle to the death and not bother racing. If all these options still aren't enough, it probably won't be long before Avalon Hill releases expansions with additional boards and courses.

Although players who like serious player interaction and deep strategizing may not enjoy it as much, fans of thinking games and chaotic and zany action will thoroughly enjoy Roborally. It is not only a great concept, but it executes it well. And because few games support a large group, this is one that can be substituted for the average party game that gets pulled off the shelf when there are six to eight players present.



4 out of 5 jacks



Project CHEER celebrates anniversary

By Elizabeth Castillo

Discovery writer

In almost a year since its kickoff, Project CHEER has exceeded its expectations of providing morale building events and fun for the Brooks' community.

"Initially we did it for six months to see how things went, and it just kind of got caught up in going to a whole year," said Tech. Sgt. Joanna Tavera Project CHEER's Publicity Coordinator. "I think that it has exceeded its goal that it set forth for the first part of the year. We had a vision, and we've just grown from there."

Project CHEER, which stands for Creating a Healthy Environment of Energy and Enthusiasm, is aimed towards building morale for students, single and unaccompanied airmen, permanent party and base personnel. The initiative, along with its many dedicated sponsors, has created many clever and exciting events for students and the community to enjoy. Each month, two events are held by numerous sponsors such as the Airman Council, NCO Council and Wing Top 3 just to name a few.

With two events a month, one for U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine students and the other for all base personnel, the past 35 events have been attended by approximately 2,500 base personnel. Project CHEER's goal is to gain more attendance and provide high-energy events for airmen and base personnel.

"We're going to try to do things where people are going to want to stay after work to participate in," said Senior Master Sgt. Jerry Gibson, vice president of Project CHEER. "We want bigger and

better events; I think people will come up with even better ideas."

Project CHEER holds monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of every month at 1:30 p.m. at Sydney's. The meetings are open, with any interested party invited to attend and provide input.

"Everybody is invited to attend our meetings," said Master Sgt. Leslie Pratt, president of Project Cheer. "We really encourage it."

Student input is also welcome as Project CHEER will conduct a poll for the students to see what kind of activities they would like to have in the future. Students who have participated in past Project CHEER events were grateful for the opportunity to relieve stress and intermingle with other students in a "laid back" environment.

"When you go out to a Project CHEER event, it is an opportunity to wear real clothes and kind of let loose," said Airman Shauna Painter.

For students, the first month of school is when most presentations and classes take place. With the added stress of being away from home and family, students may opt to stay in their dorm rooms.

"I really enjoy the program, mainly because a lot of students come here and they really don't have anything to do or they're kind of bummed out and stay in their rooms," said Airman 1st Class Lucia Hinojosa. "Having Project CHEER come in and take you away for a couple of hours helps to relieve some stress."

Airman Hinojosa's class was inspired by Project CHEER and began organizing parties themselves.

"It encouraged my class to make our own events. After Casino Night, we de-



Photo by Samantha Shieh

A pair of U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine students square off in a pseudo-Sumo wrestling competition at the Project CHEER kickoff activity Oct. 19, 2004. As Project CHEER approaches its one year anniversary, all those involved consider it a huge success.

cided to have our own party," said Airman Hinojosa. "People who go and volunteer there are very friendly and they make you feel at home. They make it look easy enough to do it yourself."

Along with Casino Night, past Project CHEER events have included an ice cream social, pool party, talent show and numerous potlucks and cooking classes. All events are free of charge and any base personnel are welcome to attend the community events.

Upcoming Project CHEER events can be seen on a calendar which is linked from the Brooks website homepage. Archives of past event photos can also be seen, as well as Project CHEER's initia-

tive. Information on upcoming events can be found on flyers and posters posted throughout the Base.

Those involved with Project CHEER feel the first year has been a growing success, and in the future, will continue to exceed all expectations. Through awareness and participation, Project CHEER will continue to be a fun and effective way in bringing together and boosting morale for the Brooks community.

"Project Cheer is one of those things that it is what you make of it. The enthusiasm that somebody puts into it that really makes it fun," said Airman Hinojosa. "Don't be intimidated and make your time hear count."



Government civilians offered ways to help Katrina survivors

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE — In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, many Americans want to do whatever they can to help those directly affected, and now government civilians have some opportunities to help in the effort.

The emergency leave transfer and the federal employee volunteer programs are two avenues civilian employees can take to do their part in helping hurricane victims.

Through the emergency leave transfer program, Air Force civilian employees may donate unused annual leave for transfer to fellow employees adversely affected by the hurricane.

Leave transfer recipients who need additional time off from work can then do so without having to use their own paid annual or sick leave.

"This is a great opportunity for each of us to help fellow government civilians as they need time to care for a variety of family issues as a result of Hurricane Katrina," said Greg Den Herder, Air Force Personnel Center executive director here.

Emergency leave donors may contribute up to 104 hours of leave in a leave year, but they cannot contribute leave to a specific person. Donated annual leave not used by emergency leave recipients will be restored to emergency leave donors.

Employees may volunteer to become emergency leave donors by submitting an Office of Personnel Management Form 1638 through their civilian personnel flight to the Air Force Personnel Center's civilian field activities office. The form must state the specified number of hours of

accrued annual leave to be transferred from their annual leave accounts to the leave program.

In another effort to help hurricane victims, government civilian employees may also volunteer to help the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Hurricane Katrina efforts through the federal employee volunteer program.

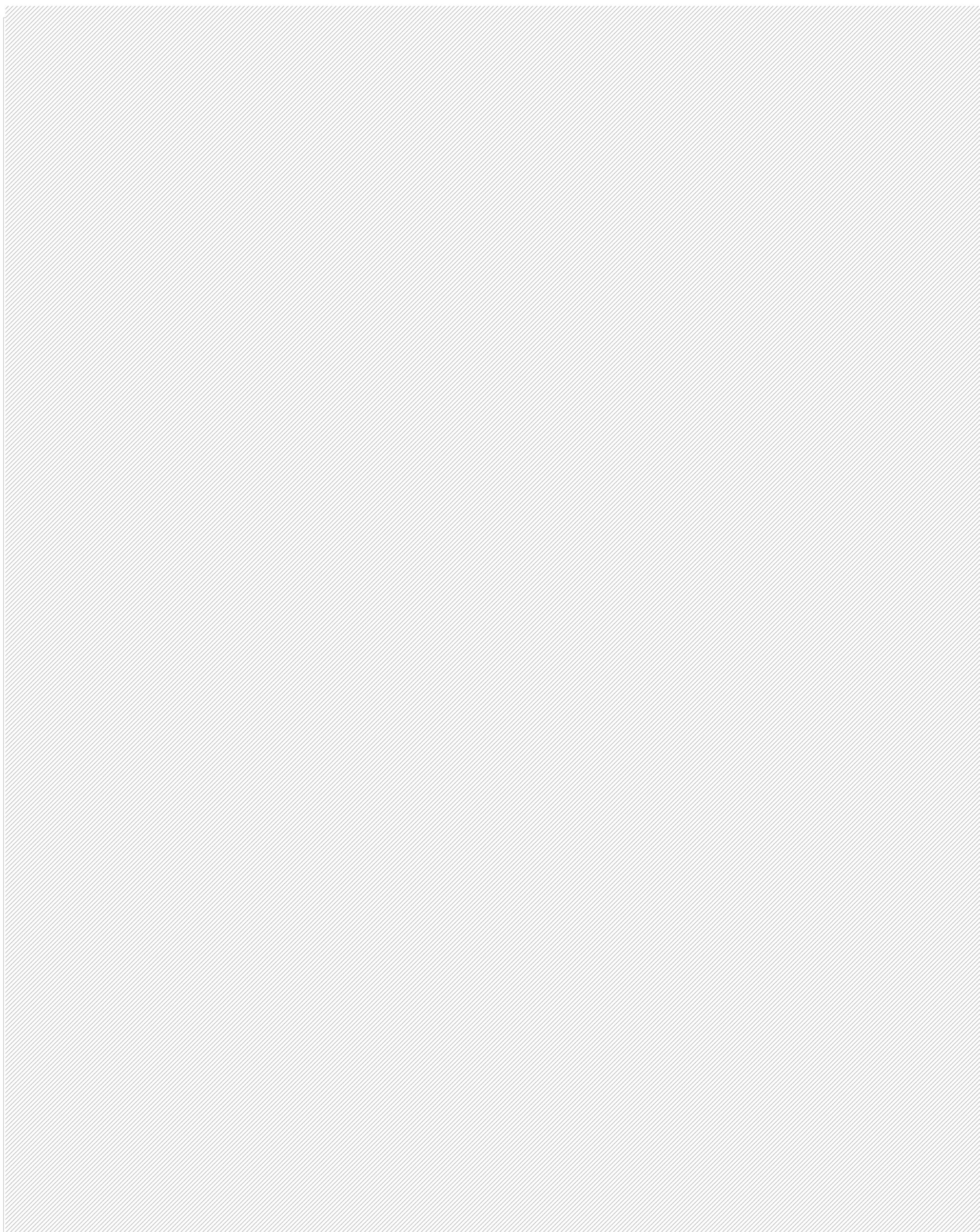
"Air Force civilians are already providing outstanding assistance to those in need simply by doing their jobs," Mr. Herder said. "This program offers those people, whom supervisors can release, another way to serve in this effort to overcome the effects of Hurricane Katrina."

Potential volunteers must receive permission from their chain of command to participate. Those who volunteer will likely face difficult working conditions

while being exposed to potential dangers to their health and well-being. Volunteers should also expect to be deployed a minimum of 30 days to locations affected by Hurricane Katrina as determined by FEMA.

Along with this awareness, supervisors must weigh the volunteer opportunity against costs to the unit. Volunteers' units will continue to pay salary and benefit costs, including workers compensation costs if volunteer employees are injured. FEMA officials expect to pay additional travel, overtime and training costs, but owning organizations must be prepared to cover those costs until reimbursement is made.

Interested civilian employees with their supervisors' permission, should contact their base civilian personnel flights for more information.





Brooks sergeant receives first Diamond Award

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

The old saying "you never know who is watching you" came to bear on a Brooks Wingman who is the recipient of the Brooks First Sergeants Council's "Diamond Sharp Award."

Staff Sgt. Mantangi Johnson, assigned to the 311th Human Systems Wing Commander's Action Group, recently earned the historic distinction of being the first person on base to receive this quarterly award.

"It's presented to individuals in the ranks of E-6 and below for outstanding dress and personal appearance, and for strict adherence to (military) customs and courtesies," said Senior Master Sgt. Jonathan Walker, U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine's First Sergeant.

Sergeant Johnson and fellow first sergeants here came up with this morale-boosting awards program, based partially

on local unit dress and personal appearance recognition initiatives. "Most installations have a 'Look Sharp' or 'Diamond' award. We combined the two to create the Diamond Sharp Award," explained Sergeant Walker about continuing here this Air Force tradition.

Candidates for the award were nominated by first sergeants from USAFSAM, the Mission Support Group, 311th HSW and the Air Force Institute for Operational Health. A group of three first sergeants made unannounced visits to inspect the nominees. Sergeant Walker said the majority of questions they asked the nominees involved military dress code requirements identified in AFI 26-2903. Some of their responses, he said, were well-reasoned suggestions to improve uniform appearance while potentially saving the federal government money. This new awards program, he noted, supports a core Air Force value: "excellence in everything we do."



Courtesy photo

Master Sgt. Jonathan Walker (left), Master Sgt. Laurie Olerich and Master Sgt. Cindy Riler (far right) present Staff Sgt. Mantangi Johnson, 311th Human Systems Wing, with the Diamond Sharp Award and a First Sergeant's "Well Done Coin." The Diamond Sharp Award is presented quarterly to individuals in the ranks of E-6 and below for outstanding dress and personal appearance and strict adherence to customs and courtesies.



ERIC STEPHENS
311th Human Systems
Wing director

ACTION LINE

536-2222

The DIRECTOR'S ACTION LINE is your opportunity to make Brooks a better place to live, work and play.

If you have a suggestion for improvement, a complaint or a problem that you have not been able to resolve through normal complaint channels or the chain of command, call the **DIRECTOR'S ACTION LINE, 536-2222**.

Only items of general interest will be published, so please leave your name and number for a personal response.

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Safety.....	536-2111	Civilian Pay.....	536-8370
BDA Housing Community Maintenance.....	533-5900	Inspector General (FWA).....	536-2358
BDA Housing Community Office.....	533-5905	Military Equal Opportunity.....	536-2584
311th Services Division.....	536-2545	EEO Complaints.....	536-3702
59th Medical Squadron (Clinic).....	536-4715	Brooks City-Base AF Project Office.....	536-3655
		Brooks Development Authority.....	536-5366

Poker tournament underway at Brooks

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

It's not the World Series of Poker, but the "Texas Hold'em" base championship now underway at the Brooks Club leads to the 'big jackpot' in Dayton, Ohio.

Ronnie Carter defeated 15 other players in the first leg of the inaugural poker contest Sept. 14. The tournament concludes with the championship round at 5 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 5. Winner of the base championship gets an all-expenses-paid trip to Wright-Patterson AFB for the Air Force Materiel Command tournament that begins Oct. 29.

"It's the first time we've had it. Ed Nunn, club director for AFM, came up with the idea to promote club membership," said Capt. Michael Wyatt, 311th Services deputy director.

He said the base poker tournament contin-



ues this week as well as next. Free to enter, only club members are eligible to advance to the base championship round.

"They (non-members) can sign up on the spot to be eligible," said Captain Wyatt, noting that non-club and club players can participate in the tournament even if they had not played in the preliminary and secondary rounds. The Project Cheer "Casino Night" dealer from February's event is also this tournament's official dealer.

The tournament's weekly prizes include \$75 for 1st place, \$50 for second and \$25 for third, all of which are club membership credits. The base champ will get a chance to win AFM tournament prizes that include \$1,500 for first place, \$1,000 for second and \$500 for third, all of which are club membership credits.

The POC to sign up for the tournament and/or club membership is Cindy Floyd at 536-3782.

FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

PREDEPLOYMENT BRIEFING

Sept. 27 — 1 - 2 p.m., Bldg. 537

Mandatory briefings address issues that pertain to deployed service members and their families. Appointments necessary.

bers, DoD civilians and spouses. Overseas move has its own set of challenges and opportunities. Learn more about OCONUS PCS by staying after for the PCS Overseas class.

SEPARATION AND RETIREMENT

Oct. 19 — 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Bldg. 537

This is a mandatory class for active military personnel who are retiring or separating within 120 days. Topics covered are Pre-Separation, Veterans Benefits, Survivors Benefit Plans, TRICARE, and Financial Planning for Transition. Spouses are encouraged to attend.

UNDERSTANDING THE THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN

Oct. 5 — 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Bldg. 537

This class is to inform both military members and civilians on the latest changes to the Thrift Savings Plan. Learn how to save, invest and adequately prepare for your future.

TRANSITION ASSISTANCE SEMINAR

Oct. 11-13 — 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Bldg. 537

Making the transition from the military to the civilian sector can be a big undertaking. This seminar allows us to better serve those separating and retiring members and their spouses. Topics include job search preparation, resume writing, interviewing skills to include appropriate dress, veteran's benefits, and much more. One should attend at least 180 days prior to retirement/separation.

SMOOTH MOVE

Oct. 18 — 12:30 - 3:15 p.m., Bldg. 537

PCSing? Hear briefings from TMO, Legal, Clinic, Finance, Housing, and the Family Support Center and ask questions. Open to all active duty mem-

HURRICANE KATRINA

For military and civilian Airmen who still have questions about Katrina and her impact, the Air Force Personnel Center Web site can help. Located at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil, the website contains information on entitlements for Air Force Airmen affected by the hurricane, such as limited evacuation allowances and expenses for lodging, transportation, meals and incidentals. Click on the "Hurricane Katrina" tab. The AFPC Readiness Center can be contacted by calling 800-435-9941.

To register for a class,
call 536-2444



Combined Federal Campaign assists Brooks employee in time of need

By Elizabeth Castillo
Discovery writer

The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) has been dedicated to philanthropy through federal employee donations and participation. Robert Faust, a contractor for the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, and his family have found first hand, the effects the CFC has on people such as themselves.

Robert Faust's oldest son, Timothy, was diagnosed with Down syndrome and autism, and the family soon realized the challenges that they were going to face raising their son.

Timmy was extremely uncooperative and only slept about four hours a night. He created a lot of stress on the family, and when the Faust's second son was

born, Timmy unknowingly injured his younger brother.

"He required one on one care and that just couldn't be provided in the home," Mr. Faust said. "It was simply impossible."

There was a number of organizations that tried to assist with Timmy's care, however it was an unusual circumstance because full diagnosis was not very common in the 1990's. Timmy was only one in about twelve or thirteen in the U.S.

"We did a very thorough search in the U.S and landed about three facilities that would accept him," Mr. Faust said. "Two of which we could not financially afford, they were private organizations that did not accept CFC."

Those private organizations cost approximately \$90,000 a year to house Timmy. With direc-

tion from Timmy's doctors, the Fausts were able to contact Mission Road Developmental Center who was able to house Timmy at a significantly lower cost.

"This was the place that we were able to put him where he was comfortable and they looked after him," Mr. Faust said. "They did the best they could to help him develop, and gave him the opportunity for a respectable life with his condition."

Mission Road Developmental Center receives funds from the CFC, and was able to offer Timmy a home for about \$15,000 a year. The Fausts only had to pay a portion of the cost. The Fausts received bonuses and scholarships to offset the cost.

"If CFC wasn't in the picture, had they not received all of those

benefits from CFC and that assistance, there was no way we would have had a place for Timmy to live," Mr. Faust said.

Mission Road Developmental Center is located behind Stinson field in a quiet farm style setting. The previous owners had a daughter who was disabled, and when they passed away, they left the farm-style home to be used to house children with disabilities.

With the help of the CFC, Mission Road Developmental Center is able to house children with disabilities for a lower cost than private organizations.

"It was just a very decent place for Timmy to live that he would not have had otherwise," Mr. Faust said. "If that organization did not get CFC, there would be a lot of kids who didn't have a place to live."



Combined Federal Campaign

Timmy was able to live at Mission Road Developmental Center from the age of seven to 18 when he aged out of the program. He currently resides in a facility in Corpus Christi that does not receive funds from the CFC.

Through the CFC, the family was able to find comfortable, safe and cost efficient housing for their son.

"He's been touched by the many organizations affiliated with the CFC," Mr. Faust said. "If it wasn't for the CFC, we wouldn't have the family that we have."



NSPS implementation team urges employees to accomplish training

By Ed Shannon

311th Human Systems Wing/PA

With Brooks employees transitioning to the National Security Personnel System as early as next April, members of the Brooks NSPS Implementation Team urge managers, supervisors and employees to participate in the numerous upcoming Change Management and Soft-Skills training classes.

"The implementation of NSPS will require managers, supervisors, and employees to have a basic knowledge of NSPS regulations and processes," said Toni Robertson, Brooks NSPS training coordinator. "Also, they will need to know the core competencies or soft skills to successfully transition to and thrive in the new system."

Ms. Robertson's training team is working hard to set up as much computer-based training as possible for Brooks employees. The team identified several classes – some for managers and supervisors and others for employees and is setting up class dates and training instructors for those classes now.

Core Competencies

Ms. Robertson said four core competencies have been identified as being essential for successful NSPS implementation. These include the ability to deal with change; skill in interpersonal communications; the ability to coach and counsel employees; and the ability to achieve results through performance and/or manage employee performance.

"These skills have always been important," she said. "Under NSPS, these skills become even more critical."



While the Change Management and Soft-Skills classes do not provide technical information about NSPS, they focus on the development of communication and change management skills which will be needed to successfully implement NSPS, Robertson said. These courses can be taken online anytime before or during NSPS implementation. Training on NSPS regulations and processes will be provided to employees and supervisors when NSPS is deployed.

"We expect NSPS implementation to occur much more smoothly if all of our employees take advantage of the Change Management and soft-skills classes now," Ms. Robertson said. "We know there will be other important NSPS training coming our way that will focus on the process and regulations. Implementation might be more difficult for employees if they

wait until the last minute to accomplish all of the training."

Training Classes

Training classes are offered online in two sets – Change Management and Soft-Skills, and the sets are divided into non-supervisory and supervisory groups. Every Brooks employee should determine which group (supervisory or non-supervisory) they belong to and take at least one Change Management class and at least one Soft-Skills class in their group. (For classes offered, see box.)

Ms. Robertson said any Air Force employee may register online for computer based training courses at the Air Force Portal. There is no cost for taking the online courses. Employees should obtain their supervisor's approval before taking online courses.

Supervisors are highly encouraged to allow their employ-

ees the time needed to complete the recommended courses. The time used to complete these courses is considered duty time. But before employees can accomplish their training, they must register at the Air Force Portal to access the courses.

Computer Lab Available

Brooks employees who have computer access at their desks can accomplish the training at the Air Force Portal, and the classes can be accessed from home as well, Ms. Robertson said. Some employees may not have computer access, and therefore, the NSPS Training Team set up a computer lab for employees to take the training.

The lab will be available on Thursday, Oct. 4 and Oct. 6 from 12:30-4:30 p.m. in Bldg. 775, Lab C. An instructor will be present to facilitate while employees are taking their course.

"Employees must pre-register for the class through the Air

Force Portal before they arrive at the computer lab, and they must have their ID and password when they arrive," Ms. Robertson said. "This will expedite their training. If they do not pre-register, they could register at the computer lab, but their ID and password will be sent to their e-mail account, and they will have to come back to the lab at a later date to accomplish their training."

Performance Management Courses Coming Soon

Ms. Robertson said Performance Management courses – one designed for supervisors and managers and another for employees – are expected to begin in mid November. Keep checking the Brooks City-Base NSPS Community of Practice website for the most current information.

For more information about NSPS training, contact Ms. Robertson at 536-5692 or Ms. Laverne Kistner at 536-6964.

NSPS Training Courses for Brooks Employees

Civilian Non-supervisory Change Management Courses:

- Being Prepared for Change (3.5 hrs)-PD0192
- Perspectives on Organizational Change (3.0 hrs)-PD0191
- Communicating During Organizational Change (3.5 hrs)-PD0193

Civilian Non-supervisory Skill Courses:

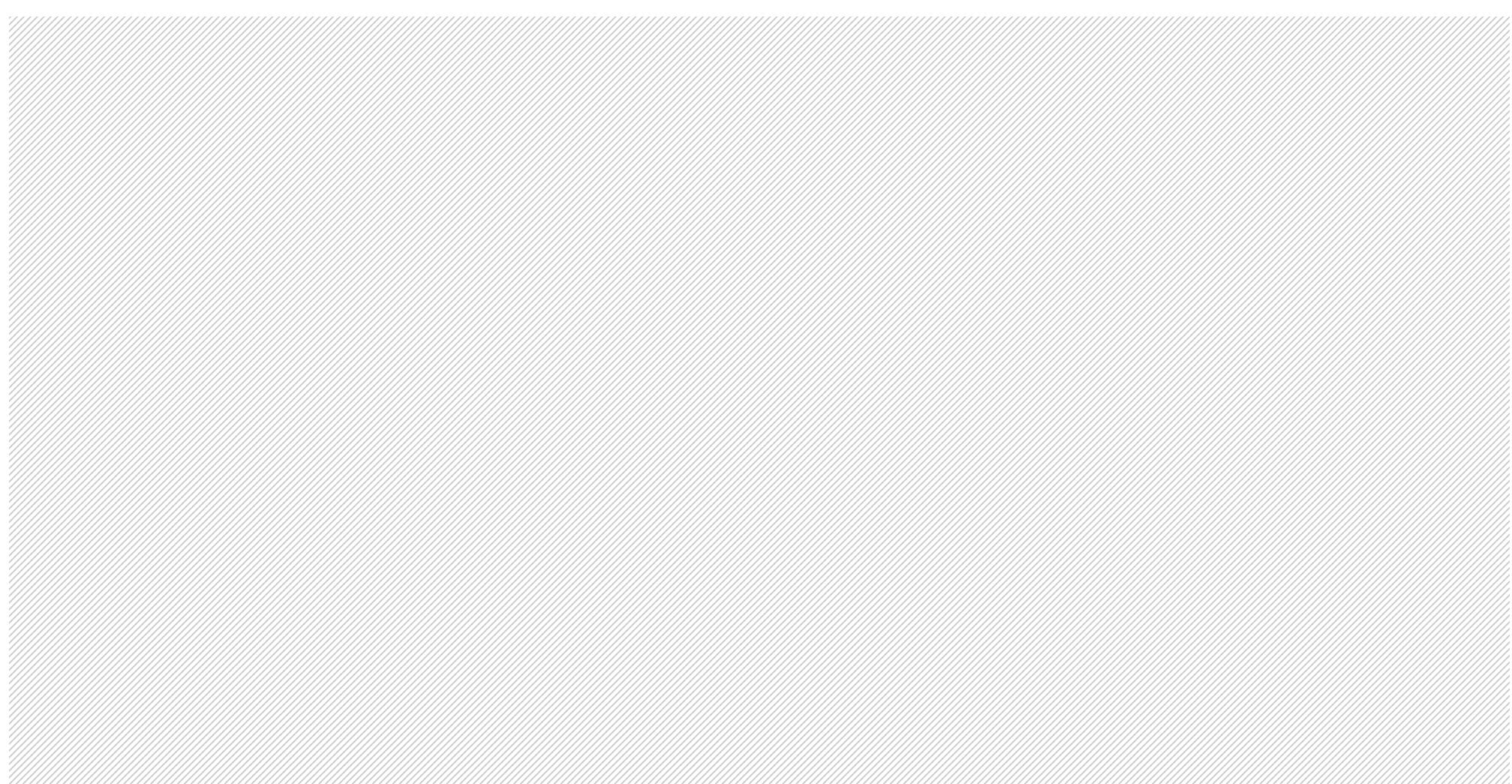
- Leading Change from the Front Line (2.5 hrs)-LEAD0125
- Conquering Conflict through Communication (3.0 hrs)-TEAM0214
- Communication Skills for Resolving Conflict (5.0 hrs)-COMM0006
- The Dynamics of Interaction (3.0 hrs)-COMM0504

Civilian/Military Supervisory Change Management Courses:

- Leading through Change (2.5 hrs)-LEAD0147
- Communicating and Reinforcing Change (2.5 hrs)-MGMT0332
- Change Leadership (2.5 hrs)-MGMT0331
- Managing through the Change (4.0 hrs)-MGMT0182
- Overcome the Challenges of Change (2.5 hrs)-MGMT0333
- Beginning the Change Process (4.5 hrs)-MGMT0181

Civilian/Military Supervisory Skill Courses:

- The Manager as Coach and Counselor (5 hrs)-MGMT0113
- Continuous Performance Assessment (3.5 hrs)-MGMT0341
- An Essential Guide to Giving Feedback (2.5 hrs)-COMM0521





Chief of Staff delivers keynote address on future of Air Force

by Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle
Air Force Print News

To determine the way ahead, one must understand the heritage and history of the Air Force, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley said during his keynote address on the future of the Air Force at the Air Force Association's 2005 Air and Space Conference and Technology Exposition Sept. 14.

In World War I, the Allies were faced with breaking the German lines near the city of St. Mihiel. The Germans were entrenched and fortified, and it was up to Col. Billy Mitchell to plan the air offensive.

Looking at the plan and execution, it is very similar to the tactics the Air Force uses today to gain air superiority.

"First, (Colonel Mitchell) built a series of expeditionary airfields that had repair hangars, billeting, and messing facilities," General Moseley said. "He then stocked them with fuel and munitions. For the opening shot he sent his fighters deep into German airspace to directly attack the German air force. This cleared the way for

the bombardment squadrons to directly attack German headquarters, troop concentrations, staging areas, transportation infrastructure, and airfields."

During his address, the general cited many of the founding fathers of air power as laying the foundation for today's future.

"What (Colonel Mitchell) and these early, intrepid Airmen demonstrated in those frail (World War I) aircraft ... how they began to think and organize ... how they forever changed warfare — they have given us a sense of perspective and a way to understand our future," he said.

Also, in understanding the future course for the Air Force, there are current challenges that must be met.

General Moseley cited three challenges the Air Force must tackle: focus on fighting the war on terrorism, continue to develop Airmen and recapitalize and modernize the inventory.

The Air Force has been involved in the war on terrorism for more than 1,400 days. After such a long time, as with most tasks, an air of complacency can set in, he said.

"Let me be clear: We cannot now, nor ever, lose sight of the fact that the mission of the United States Air Force is to fly and to fight," General Moseley said. "We fly and we fight ... that's what we do."

It is the Airmen who fly and fight, and training those Airmen is an Air Force priority.

"We clearly have the best people in the world," he said. "If we are going to ask our Airmen to defend this nation, then we owe it to them to give them the best opportunities for career development ... and give them the best possible standard of living and the best possible training."

The general said the Air Force must continue to make the training more realistic and find the right mix of joint, coalition and composite force training.

For the Air Force to train and fight, it has to have the proper equipment to ensure mission success. "Old equipment is not a new problem," General Moseley said. "We are operating the oldest inventory of aircraft in our history."

General Moseley commented on the way ahead for the Air Force and the four points that will



Photo by Jim Verheggi

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley gives his keynote address on the future of air and space power during the final day of the Air Force Association's 2005 Air and Space Conference and Technology Exposition Sept. 14.

drive its future: the future total force must be not only adaptable to today's fight, but also tomorrow's fight and equally adaptable to unknown applications; it must be seamless among the active duty, Guard and Reserve components; it must operate in a joint environment; not only in what is purchased, but also in the way we fight, talk and think; and it must be affordable.

"To meet these challenges though, we must continue to look for better ways to operationally exploit the air and space domain," the general said.

General Moseley also spoke of the innovativeness and execution the early pioneers of the Air Force used to overcome obstacles in their path. "The pioneers have given us a proud combat heritage," he said.



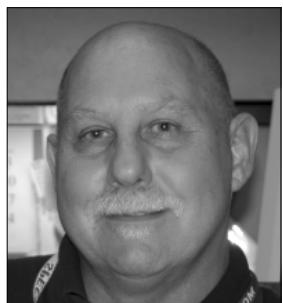
A LOOK at BROOKS

How have you
aided in the
Hurricane Katrina
disaster relief?



Staff Sgt. John Seay
59th MDS

I volunteered last week at KellyUSA, and also donated some baby clothes and stuffed animals that my kids weren't using anymore.



Rudy Bognato
AFRL

I've donated food and money to the Red Cross. We have family from Louisiana so we have also helped them.



Eliaser Noriega
AFRL

I went on the Red Cross website to find a list of things they needed. I brought in a box to collect donations and delivered it to KellyUSA.



Greg Faragoza
AFRL

I donated baby food, clothing and items. I donated here at the office and made a cash donation to our church.



William Smith
AFMSA

We have a deacon family program at our church where we have taken care of all the needs of the families.

President sends BRAC report to Congress

WASHINGTON – President Bush concurred with and sent the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission's report to Congress on Sept. 15 for legislative review, White House officials announced.

Congress now has 45 legislative days to accept or reject the report in its entirety. Congress cannot make changes to the final report.

The commission delivered its final report to the president on Sept. 8. The report lists the commission's recommendations for revamping the U.S. military's infrastructure and force structure.

The president chose to approve the commission's report. He could have rejected it or returned it to the commission for revisions.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld

cited the 2005 BRAC process as an opportunity "to reset our force." DoD took two and a half years to study and compile its recommendations for the 2005 BRAC. The department's BRAC report was released May 13.

The BRAC commission approved 86 percent of DoD's original recommendations — 119 with no change and another 45 with amendments. However, the commission rejected 13 recommendations, significantly modified another 13, and made five additional closure or realignment recommendations on its own initiative.

DoD's BRAC recommendations would reduce excess military infrastructure between 5 and 11 percent and save \$48.8 billion over 20 years, Rumsfeld said.



Airmen pitch in for New Orleans cleanup

by Staff Sgt. Bryan Bouchard
4th Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

After living at the New Orleans airport for 10 days while building three tent cities, Air Force civil engineers headed downtown Sept. 13 to help clean up Hurricane Katrina wreckage.

"It's great (the engineers) can get out and help these people directly," said Capt. Paul Fredin, who is assigned to the 4th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron here and deployed from McGuire Air Force Base, N.J.

Armed with more than a dozen chain saws, about 100 Airmen headed out on buses for the cleanup effort, not knowing what to expect or in what conditions they would be working, but glad for the opportunity to assist.

"It's good to help out," said Staff Sgt. Jason Kaluza, who is deployed from Scott AFB, Ill. "It's great to help out other Americans."

While one group of Airmen went into a neighborhood in downtown New Or-

leans to clean up debris, another group went to a town called Algiers on the outskirts of the city. There the team found downed trees and debris littering the roadways. With chain saws roaring, the crews started making sense of the mess covering the streets.

Meanwhile, a two-man team from McGuire found something they didn't expect — a blown water line. Soldiers on scene from the 82nd Airborne Division asked the group if they had anyone who could help with the line, and Staff Sgts. Jonathan Close and Nicholas Fink stepped up as the group's resident plumbers to see if they could repair the water main. Soldiers had located the water meter, but not the shutoff valve.

The two Airmen made a couple of unsuccessful attempts to dig their way through a foot of sludge to find a shutoff valve. Then they decided to recheck the meter themselves to see if there was a way to turn it off. After digging in the mud, Sergeant Close was able to unearth the valve, but that was just the tip of the ice-

berg. As soon as they uncovered the valve, they discovered they needed a valve key from the utility company to shut the water off.

Thinking quickly, the two fashioned a valve key from a discarded aluminum fence post and were able to shut off the water, preventing the already soupy yard from spreading down the street.

After their wet start, however, the team spent the rest of the hot and humid day chopping up downed trees and gathering limbs for municipal cleanup crews to discard later.

For most of the engineers, the opportunity to help local residents was a welcomed break from setting up the tent cities. For others it was a taste of the harsh reality of the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Senior Airman Richard Davis, a firefighter from Shaw AFB, S.C., enlisted in the Air Force three-and-a-half years ago and flew to basic training from the New Orleans airport he now calls home. As a former resident of Slidell, La., he



Photo by Staff Sgt. Bryan Bouchard

Staff Sgt. Joshua Copeland cuts through a downed tree in a New Orleans neighborhood Sept. 13. About 100 Airmen from the 4th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron helped clear debris.

said it was weird noting places he once delivered food to for a local distributor that are now nonexistent.

"The house that I lived in is probably gone," he said.



STEP PROMOTED



Photo by Staff Sgt. Brandy Bogart

Tech. Sgt. Jason McCormack, seen here with his wife and four children, received a surprise visit from Chief Master Sgt. Jonathan Hake (left), command chief for the Air Force Materiel Command, and Gen. Bruce Carlson, commander of the Air Force Materiel Command. Sergeant McCormack, a military training leader for the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, was STEP promoted from staff sergeant to technical sergeant by the AFMC leaders. "It was the best day of my 13-year career," Sergeant McCormack said. "I had no idea this was coming. It was a complete surprise." The sergeant said not only was it an honor to have the AFMC senior leadership present his stripe, but it was an honor to have his family and some of the USAFSAM students in attendance. The STEP program is designed to recognize and promote outstanding individuals who have done a great job throughout their careers.



Beware of Hurricane Katrina scams

By Capt. Nick Doukas
Brooks Legal Office

Disasters bring out the best in people. Many Americans are searching for ways to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Individuals are donating time and money to relief efforts. Companies are contributing supplies and financial support. However, Hurricane Katrina has also brought out the worst in people. The FBI reports that about 2,300 web sites now advertise Hurricane relief service. Most of them are frauds. In addition, several scams are currently being employed to either steal your personal information or donations.

Here are some helpful tips to consider when searching for ways to help victims of Hurricane Katrina:

— Donate to recognized charities. New "charities" may be frauds. Often, scam artists create "charities" that sound official or similar to familiar or nationally known organizations. In addition, legitimate charities that sprung up overnight may lack the infrastructure to provide efficient assistance.

— Give directly to charitable organizations, not the solicitors for the charities. These solicitors take a portion of the donations to cover their costs.

— Research charities before you donate. Find out the percentage of your donation that

will actually be used to assist victims of Hurricane Katrina. Organizations offering incentives to donate, such as T-shirts or prizes, may use a significant percentage of donations to pay for these incentives.

In addition, organizations may not mark donations to assist victims of Hurricane Katrina. Your donation, or a portion of it, may find its way to other causes. The Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance provides helpful information about charities at its website www.give.org.

— Do not give or send cash. For security and tax record purposes, contribute by check or credit card.

— Do not respond to email solicitations for donations. Most credible charities do not send email solicitations. One popular scam involves email solicitations from entities claiming to be the Red Cross. The emails contain links to web pages that look identical to the official Red Cross website -- www.redcross.org. The Red Cross does not send email solicitations for donations.

For more information, check out the Federal Trade Commission Guide to charitable donations at www.ftc.gov/bcp/conline/pubs/tmarkg/charity.htm and the Federal Emergency Management Agency Guide at www.fema.gov/press/2005/katrinadonations.shtm

If you have been the victim of a charity scam, please call the Legal Office at 536-3301.

Legal Assistance Hours: If you need a power of attorney, will or other legal assistance, please call the Brooks Legal Office at 536-3301. Legal assistance is available to active duty and retired military personnel and their dependents. Appointments are available Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and walk-ins are welcome Thursdays from 1:30 to 2:45 p.m. The legal office offers notary services during duty hours Monday through Friday on a drop-in basis. If you have a short notice deployment or other emergency, please call or walk-in to the Legal Office at any time.



BROOKS SPOTLIGHT

Things to do around Brooks

HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER

Bldg. 821, 724-3720

Registered massage therapist Sherman Lennon is now working at the health and wellness center. The therapy uses the classic Western Swedish massage therapy techniques including deep tissue work and trigger point. Massage therapy is used for tired, stressed-out bodies, sore muscles, aching necks, backs, shoulders, legs, feet and hands. Appointments can be scheduled for Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For prices or to schedule an appointment, call Mr. Lennon at 724-3720.

BROOKS CLUB

Bldg. 204, 536-3782

Gourmet Night — Gourmet Night will be offered Oct. 7 at the Brooks Club. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m. and the cost is \$30 per person. The menu for the evening will consist of gazpacho soup, red snapper and scallop cancon, grilled marinated pork tenderloin with sweet potato puree and warm chipotle salsa, mixed cabbage and apple salad and lemon charlotte. Reservations are required and seating is limited to 30 guests.

Cook Your Own Steak Night — Starting Sept. 12 patrons can grill their own steaks. Bring the family or friends to the Boar's Head Pub every Monday evening from 4 to 7 p.m. and cook your steak just the way you like it. For \$7.50, you will receive a New

York strip steak, potato salad, baked beans, rolls and butter.

OUTDOOR RECREATION

Bldg. 1154, 536-2881

Outdoor recreation has scheduled two Texas Treasure Casino trips — Saturday and Oct. 15. The Saturday trip is \$20 per person and will use van transportation. Cost for the Oct. 15 trip is \$25 and transportation will be by commercial bus. The price includes admission on the Texas Treasure cruise ship located in Port Aransas, transportation, dining in the International Buffet, complimentary beverages while gaming and live entertainment.

Participants will depart form Sidney's parking lot at 7 a.m. with the cruise scheduled from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Texas Treasure offers 20 table games and more than 500 slots. Participants must be at least 21 years of age to book passage on the Texas Treasure. Patrons without proper state or federal identification will not be allowed on-board.

SIDNEY'S

Bldg. 1154, 536-2881

Sidney's has been "scrambling" to please its customers. It now offers eggs cooked to order — omelettes, scrambled or fried, plus pastries and ba-gels. Stop by the new grill on the food line.

FITNESS CENTER

Bldg. 940, 536-2188

Stop by the center and get more information on the many free classes offered by the staff. On going instructional classes:

- Aerobics: Monday, Wednesday: 5 p.m.
Friday: 11:30 a.m.
- Yoga: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 5 p.m.
- Pilates: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday: 5 p.m.
- Kickboxing: Monday: 11:30 a.m.
Friday: 5 p.m.
- Power Cycling: Tuesday, Thursday: 11:30 a.m.
Tuesday, Thursday: 5 p.m.
- Circuit Training: Tuesday, Thursday: 6:15 a.m.
Tuesday, Thursday: 11:30 a.m.

Janice McMahon, 536-5475

ary, Upper Iowa University will begin offering courses that also apply toward Community College of the Air Force, thereby allowing students to complete work toward a bachelors degree at the same time they meet requirements for CCAF. For more information, call 536-3617 to schedule an appointment with Maggi Monroe, the San Antonio Center representative. Pamphlets are available in the Education Office or visit the Upper Iowa website at www.uiu.edu.

Discover Program online

The Discover Program is a career exploration program for individuals searching for a new career. This program can be used by military, civilians and family members.

Texas State University

Texas State University offers a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences degree. The BAAS degree provides an excellent opportunity for individuals to capitalize on prior work and training experiences. Students pursuing this degree may transfer semester hours previously earned, individualize the degree plan with major emphasis in an occupational field of choice, and earn semester hour credit for work and life experience and training conducted by business, industry, and military. Night classes are available in the San Antonio and San Marcos area. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 536-3618.

Officer Education Levels

All Officers need to verify their education level in the vMPF. If the education level that is reflected is incorrectly listed, please contact the AFIT Academic Coding Section at the afit.coding@afit.edu or 937-255-6565 ext. 4324.

If the education level is missing, an official transcript, sent directly from the school granting the degree to AFIT is required. The address at AFIT is AFIT-SCI, 2950 Hobson Way, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433. Education Services does not have the ability to update an officer's records at the local level. Please allow ample time for this update to occur at AFIT and plan accordingly.

ACCD On-Base Classes for Flex 2

Registration is underway for the Alamo Community College District Flex 2 beginning in October. The eight week courses offered on base by Palo Alto College will begin Oct. 17 and end Dec. 6. Class meets twice per week from 4:30 to 7:30 pm. On-base classes include Speech, English, and Art Appreciation. The representative visits Brooks City-Base every Tuesday. Please call 536-3617 to schedule an appointment.

Upper Iowa University

Upper Iowa allows students to complete degrees through its Military Campus Resident Centers, online, or through external degree programs. In Janu-

Air Force Virtual Education Center

Service members can view information about Air Force education centers, individual education record, DANATES test scores, and tuition assistance requests from the on-line Virtual Education Center. Tuition assistance is requested through this website as well. CCAF Students can order CCAF transcripts from the website and view a web progress report. There are also practice tests available for CLEP exams and information about commissioning. To access the AFVEC go to <https://my.af.mil/afvecprod>. For more information, call 536-3617.



BACHMANN

Q&A

FULL NAME:
Col Richard E. Bachmann Jr.

DUTY TITLE, ORGANIZATION:
Commander and Dean, US Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine

**IN SIMPLE TERMS,
WHAT DO YOU DO?:**
As Commander and Dean, I direct the teaching, researching and consultative activities of over 410 professional staff who teach over 5,000 students per year. USAFSAM provides the entry level technical training for 6 officer and 3 enlisted career fields and a wide variety of advanced courses to Aerospace Medicine career fields.

BIRTHDAY/HOMETOWN:
June 12 / Grand Forks, N.D.

FAMILY STATUS:
Married with three children

PERSONAL MOTTO:
Excellence and balance.

INSPIRATIONS:
My wife, who makes sacrifices every day to hold the house and family together despite my frequent TDYs and long duty days.

HOBBIES:
Traveling, camping, choral music, photography

**I JOINED MILITARY SERVICE
BECAUSE:**
I wanted to combine medicine and flying, and the Air Force seemed like the best way to do that, and get medical school paid for it to boot!

FIVE-YEAR GOAL:
Successfully guide USAFSAM through the BRAC and transferal to Wright-Patterson.

ULTIMATE GOAL:
Retire to the mountains, travel widely and visit family and friends

**MY GREATEST
ACCOMPLISHMENT:**
Raising three children to productive adulthood (not finished yet)

MY MOST PRIZED POSSESSION:
My grandfather's collection of full-page Sunday Prince Valiant comics. They have given my daughter and me countless hours of enjoyment with great stories and art, and have sparked her interest in history.

New USAFSAM commander no stranger to Brooks

By Kendahl Johnson
Discovery editor

Although Col. Richard Bachmann arrived at Brooks and assumed command of the United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine just a few short months ago, he is no stranger to the school or to Brooks.

His introduction to Brooks occurred in 1982, when he attended an Aerospace Medicine short course as a medical student. He returned to Brooks for the Aerospace Medicine Primary course in 1985 and completed his residency in aerospace and occupational medicine at USAFSAM in 1997. He was happy to return. "It's like being invited back to be the principal of your hometown high school. Who wouldn't jump at the chance?" he said.

Colonel Bachmann has deep roots in the military. His father was a career Air Force pilot, and he grew up living all over the country and overseas in Japan. When it came time to make career and educational decisions, he decided he wanted to be a physician, and the Air Force was a great option. "I had gone to flight surgeons for medical care as a child and so I had some sense of what I was getting into," Colonel Bachmann said. "Flying airplanes and practicing medicine sounded like a pretty good combination to me."

He was accepted into an accelerated pre-medical program at the University of Michigan. He applied for and received an Air Force medical scholarship and in return for a four-year commitment, the military paid for four years of schooling. The colonel graduated in 1982 with a bachelor's degree biomedical science, followed by a doctorate of medicine in 1985.

His first Air Force experience wearing the uniform was at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., where he completed his basic officer training. In 1982, he came to Brooks for the first time and spent a month in training, including parachute landing trainer, survival school and flight training. "I got a taste of the fun stuff that flight surgeons get to do," he said. "I learned about the different pieces of aerospace medicine in addition to basic patient care."

Colonel Bachmann said the variety was enjoyable and is one of the aspects of aerospace medicine that attracted him to the business initially. "We get to do clinical medicine, just like other primary care physicians, but we do lots of other stuff too," he said. "A normal week for a flight surgeon can involve widely varying activities. Every couple of hours you could be doing something different."



Brooks
**Personality
PROFILE**

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

After completing medical school at Michigan, Colonel Bachmann did a rotating internship at Travis AFB, Calif. The internship was spread out among several different specialties, and he spent time working in medicine, surgery, pediatrics and the emergency room. In 1986, he received his first flight surgeon assignment to Langley AFB, Va., where he worked for an F-15 air defense unit and was deployed all over the country and to Canada. Three years later the colonel was assigned to Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, followed by a return to the University of Michigan, where he earned a master's degree in public health in 1994. In 1995, he returned to Brooks to complete his residency at USAFSAM.

In 1997, Colonel Bachmann became the commander of the aerospace medicine squadron at RAF Lakenheath, England. While there, he was part of Operation Allied Force and supported combat operations striking targets in the Bosnia and Kosovo areas.

"I really enjoyed the assignment, but we were supporting combat operations from our home station, which was an unusual situation," Colonel Bachmann said. "Our fliers would kiss their wives in the morning, take off, strike the targets, have bad guys shooting at them, come back and land and then it was 'Hi honey I am home, what's for dinner?' and 'go cut the grass.' The next morning they would get up and do it again – very stressful on them and their families."

In 1999, Colonel Bachmann was assigned to HQ USAFE at Ramstein Air Base, Germany. As the headquarters Chief of Aerospace Medicine, he was responsible for seven main bases, making sure the operational medical missions were taken care of and the programs were functional.

While at Ramstein he had a unique opportunity when there was severe flooding in southern Africa. He was deployed as the senior medic to advise the Joint Task Force commander in how to medically support the relief effort.

Following that assignment, he spent two years as commander of the 509th Medical Group at Whiteman AFB, Mo. While there, he made aviation history as the first flight surgeon ever to fly the B-2.

Colonel Bachmann brings contagious enthusiasm and a wealth of experience with him to his current job. He gives credit to USAFSAM for helping him move forward in his career. "I was well prepared for my jobs all along by the training I got at USAFSAM," he said. "They got me ready to be a flight surgeon in the first place."

He said commanding USAFSAM is a remarkable opportunity. "It's an honor and a challenge to be in this position, to lead such a great group of highly-trained and motivated professionals," Colonel Bachmann said.

He recognizes that with the probability of a base closure, there are some additional challenges on top of an already difficult job. "We can't have an interruption in providing trained folks to go out and do the work in the Air Force," Colonel Bachmann said. "We can't stop that pipeline for a year or two while we figure out how we are going to do it somewhere else. We have to keep high quality folks coming out while the same group of people that are doing the teaching are figuring out how to completely reconstitute us somewhere else and be ready to open the doors without any interruption."

Whatever the challenges may be, the School of Aerospace Medicine is in good hands. Colonel Bachmann is the right person to lead the school, one who recognizes the importance of the task at hand and one who is energized by the opportunities to lay a solid foundation for future of Air Force aerospace medicine.

"This is an exciting place to be at a very exciting time. Professionally, I hope folks are ready to step up to that," he said. "What we do now will persist for years. The core folks that are here for the next couple of years will have decades worth of impact and that, in and of itself, should get you fired up to come to work."



AN AEROSPACE MEDICINE SERIES

ON THE CUTTING EDGE

Aerospace medicine benefit to humanity

(Editor's note: This is Part 7 of a comprehensive series that focuses on the enormous impact that Air Force vision and ingenuity has had in the development of lifesaving scientific medical advances and innovations whose legacy continues to benefit America's military and civilian community.)

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Keeping an effective fighting force healthy has motivated Air Force medical research since its inception. This motivation has led to world-changing medical wonders and discoveries that have had a profound impact on countless lives.

Aerospace medicine's charter for finding solutions to life-threatening physiological problems has produced a legacy of innovation built upon the pioneering work of Air Force scientific visionaries. One such visionary, an Air Force captain, helped change the medical world through research to combat fatal diseases.

New York City-born research physician Dr. Raymond Damadian couldn't have intuitively known that his Brooks AFB discovery would forever transform the modern medicine landscape.

While working for the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine's Physiological Chemistry Section here from 1965-1967, his biochemistry studies led him to adapt existing technology for a greater purpose.

He became the first person in medical science to use nuclear magnetic resonance technology to image living tissue. This technology had been previously used only as a lab-based tool to chemically analyze inorganic substances.

"I think I should like to tell you that I always felt that the initial roots of the creation of MRI began here at the School of Aerospace Medicine," Dr. Damadian said during a 1989 visit here. He produced one of the most useful non-invasive diagnostic tools in medical history.

Knowing about x-rays' limitations for early disease detection, Dr. Damadian's invention of the Magnetic Resonance Imaging medical scanner in 1977 had been inspired by his grandmother's death from breast cancer. Nicknamed "Indomitable," he used it to perform the world's first MRI scan of the human body.

President Ronald Reagan awarded him in 1988 the National Medal of Technology for "independent contributions in conceiving and developing the application of magnetic resonance technology to medical uses, including whole-body scanning and diagnostic imaging." His MRI technology contributions, including collaboration with heart pacemaker pioneer Wilson Greatbatch that led to MRI compatible pacemakers and defibrillators, earned Dr. Damadian a 2003 Nobel Prize nomination.

Building upon Dr. Damadian's work, Air Force scientists here in 1996 used lasers, in concert with MRI techniques developed by Princeton University, to dramatically improve brain tumor imaging. The Air Force Office of

Scientific Research funded the project to develop a portable battlefield MRI system for the Army. "This is one of the things I see as a cutting edge thing – changing the way America does its health care," said Brooks project researcher Dave Stolarski.

Air Force scientists also revolutionized health care for burn victims during the 1990s when Anthropometric Research & Design Lab engineers at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio developed the Cyberwave 3-D Color Digitizer. Originally created to produce computer-generated human head and face models for designing 'Combat Edge' oxygen masks, the device's commercial application advanced burn mask healing technology.

"The results are fantastic. It definitely helped smooth out and prevent any real bad scarring on my face," said Raymond Donaldson from Fairborn, Ohio in a 1995 Dayton Daily News story.

Civilian medicine also benefited from Air Force virtual 3-D sound research that produced a new aviator noise reduction helmet that later was used to improve assistive technology for the deaf. This research also led to an Air Force project with the Veterans' Administration to integrate 3-D audio display technology with an autonomous navigation system for visually-impaired patients.

Vestibular research, rooted to a spinning Barany chair modified by early aviation medicine pioneers for pilot equilibrium tests, came full-circle in the 1990s through an Air Force-inspired diagnostic tool for aviators that has since commercially benefited geriatric medicine.

"We were looking at subtle vestibular disorders in aviators. Unfortunately, there was no generally accepted test then for the vestibular system," said Dr. Ed Engelken, a former Brooks scientist, who co-invented with Kenneth Stevens a rotating balancing chair that today is used to detect inner ear disorders, such as Meniere's disease that causes



The U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine used the coriolis stimulator, nicknamed the Texas Twister, as a vestibular system research tool. The device measured pilots' resistance to disorienting movements caused by inner ear imbalances.

vertigo and hearing loss. Aircraft ejection-induced pilot head trauma inspired their invention.

Dr. Ann Bell, a former Air Force otolaryngologist who today is in private practice, credits them for helping senior citizens cope with vestibular disorders created by falls, strokes, tumors, cataracts and viruses. "There's a big need out here for it. It's like advanced heart attack equipment, but for the ear," she said.

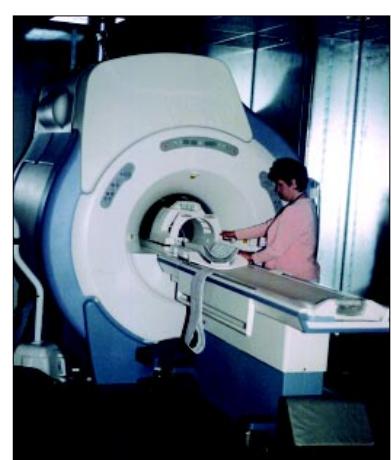
Electroencephalography research at Wright-Patterson AFB, that investigated using brain waves to fly aircraft, has also led to advances in commercial computer-activated communications and control technology for severely paralyzed people.

Decades earlier, the Air Force had established a nationally-recognized precedent for helping handicapped citizens through aerospace medicine-developed equipment. In 1960, the Air Force Surgeon General issued a directive for modifying and donating surplus MC-3A partial pressure suits for treating paraplegics who suffered from hypotension and other circulatory problems.

"I am deeply grateful for this equipment and for what it means to Kinard Sutterfield, a 24-year-old paraplegic for whom it was modified and fitted. The benefits of the partial pressure suit were immediate and have been lasting," wrote Temple, Texas' Dr. J.A.

White in a June 9, 1966 letter to Air Force headquarters.

The spirit of Air Force medical innovation is also reflected in Wilford Hall Medical Center anesthesiologists Capt. Elmo Robinson and Maj. Robert Kirby who invented at Lackland AFB an anti-suffocation device for infants with severe respiratory problems; USAFSAM's Dr. Abraham Cockett who developed the portable kidney cooling transport device called the heat exchanger; and the greatly improved goniometer that advanced orthopedic medicine and physical therapy, co-invented by Air Force General Mark Bradley, Jr. whose survival from a near-fatal car accident in 1961 had inspired it.



Courtesy photos



An Air Force aviator undergoes a series of air crew evaluation diagnostic tests that the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine researchers developed using specialized imaging equipment.

A Southwest General Hospital worker readies an MRI scanner for operation. The hospital is near Brooks City-Base, where an Air Force scientist first used the technology to image living tissue.



BROOKS BRIEFS



Hispanic Heritage Month

Brooks City-Base continues to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month throughout the month of September, with several activities scheduled.

Mariachi Mass will be today at 11 a.m. at the Base Chapel. This will be a Catholic Mass with live Mexican Mariachi incorporated and it will be in Spanish. Beginning at noon, a complimentary lunch of tamales, beans and rice will be served.

There will be a youth dance Sept. 30 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Youth Center. It will be free and open to all audiences, but geared towards a younger crowd. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

There will be a luncheon Oct. 4 at the Brooks Club. The guest speaker will be Dr. Ana "Cha" Guzman, President of Palo Alto College in San Antonio. To purchase a ticket for the event, contact Staff Sgt. Nicole Garcia at 536-3776.

Volunteers willing to read stories to children at the Child Development Center should contact Master Sgt. Robert Jones at 536-1190.

National job fair

The Non-Commissioned Officers Association Veterans Employment Assistance is hosting a national job fair at the Live Oak Civic Center, 8101 Pat Booker Rd., Tuesday Oct. 4 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bring resumes, dress in business attire or military uniform and be prepared to meet and interview with local and national company recruiters. For more information visit www.militaryjobworld.com.

Periodontics department seeks patients

The Wilford Hall Medical Center Department of Periodontics at Lackland Air Force Base is seeking additional patients with specific needs for treatment in the Periodontics Residency program. Applicants must be a military retiree, family member of a retiree or family member of

active duty and have been recently determined by a dentist to have an existing periodontal condition.

Eligible patients must obtain a written consult from their referring dentist. This consult may be faxed to "Attention, Periodontics" at 292-5193, or brought to the MacKown Dental Clinic during normal business hours to be scheduled for a periodontal evaluation appointment. Patients will be selected for treatment based on the needs of the periodontal training program.

The Department of Periodontics provides treatment of the gums and bone support of teeth. They are unable to schedule appointments for fillings, braces, crowns or bridgework. For more information, call 292-7273 after 12 p.m.

Promotion Ceremony

The Wing Enlisted Promotion and Recognition Ceremony will be Sept. 30 in the Brooks Club at 3 p.m.

Survivor Benefit Plan

The Survivor Benefit Plan open enrollment period officially begins Oct. 1 and runs a full year. There are two categories of elections allowed during this open enrollment period.

The DoD Office of the Actuary developed a calculator to compute an "estimate" of both the monthly and lump-sum buy-in premiums associated with the upcoming SBP open enrollment period. It is posted on their website at www.dod.mil/actuary. If you have open enrollment questions or to compute costs, call toll-free 1-800-531-7502. Members must complete a DD Form 2656-9 to enroll.

ETAP course offered

The AETC is hosting an Executive Transition Assistance Program Nov. 15-18 at Brooks City-Base. The website to register is <https://www.aetc.af.mil/dp/etap>.

OSI 'protecting the force' at New Orleans airport

NEW ORLEANS — When Air Force Office of Special Investigations special agents arrived at Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport on Sept. 6, their mission was to help protect 4th Air Expeditionary Group Airmen deployed here.

"We're conducting local criminal threat assessments to determine if there are any threats to Airmen transiting the local area while contributing to efforts after the hurricane," said Special Agent Joseph Jordan, deployed from OSI Detachment 216 at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C.

Agent Jordan and his partner Special Agent Craig Golden, who is also from Seymour Johnson, initially inspected and evaluated the security of the Air Force's encampment at the airport.

Primarily, the two agents were looking for criminal threats to Airmen assigned here, not forsaking critical anti-terrorism measures needed to ensure a full-spectrum threat assessment. Fortunately, the local threat has not been significant.

Agent Golden said since most of the New Orleans population evacuated during the first week, local law enforcement officials are policing those who remained. Working and coordinating with law enforcement agencies in the area has been key to OSI's mission.

"We've probably met and worked with 50 to 60 different agencies since we arrived," Agent Golden said.

From the FBI to the Louisiana State Police to even the New York Police Department, the

two agents have been diligent in their duties to the point that they've happened upon incidents unrelated to their mission.

"We were able to ascertain some information relating to felony criminal activities in New Orleans," Agent Jordan said. "We then handed the information over to other federal agencies to pursue."

Agent Golden pointed out that one of the agents' primary responsibilities has been providing safe traveling routes for Airmen traversing the South Louisiana area, while being careful not to impede recovery efforts unrelated to the Air Force mission. But being badge-carrying federal agents, Airmen from the OSI are a vital link between law enforcement agencies in the area and the military.

"Most agencies know who the OSI agents are and are happy to assist in any way they can," Agent Jordan said.

Normally, the New Orleans area falls under the purview of agents at Keesler AFB, Miss. Agent Jordan said since those agents are back in business at Keesler, he and Agent Golden are preparing to pack up and head back to North Carolina.

"In the first 72 hours, the crime level rose dramatically," Agent Jordan said. "There was looting, shootings, homicides and rapes. As most of the people evacuated, the crime level dropped significantly."

"Local law enforcement and their reactions to the activities here have suppressed any significant criminal threat in the area," Agent Golden said.



AFEMSI trauma summit to help improve readiness

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

In a continuing commitment to fulfill its unit motto "trauma trained, war ready," the Air Force Expeditionary Medical Skills Institute of the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine is hosting its 2nd Annual Trauma Summit here Sept. 27-29.

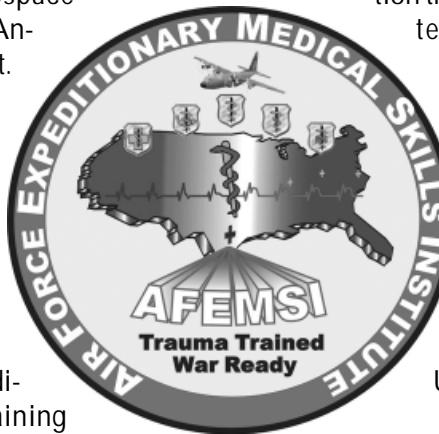
Event planners encourage the Brooks community to participate in the summit's public forum on the first day starting at 10:15 a.m. at USAFSAM's large auditorium. The summit is designed to address medical readiness issues and support training needs of medical professionals assigned to CSTARS, Center for Sustainment of Trauma And Readiness Skills.

"CSTARS units are located in Baltimore, Cincinnati and St. Louis," said Maj. Barbara Dauerty, AFEMSI Bioenvironmental Sciences Corps Readiness Skills Verification Program

chief. Critical care physicians, nurses and medical technicians are primarily assigned to CSTARS, she noted.

CSTARS members receive specialized training, Major Dauerty explained, by partnering with major universities that provide real-world instruction through the latter's trauma centers. "These trauma centers work with Air Force training programs to give some AFSC and UTC (personnel) training they need to be deployable," she explained. Participating medical education institutions include the University of Maryland, University of Cincinnati and University of St. Louis.

Established in January 2004, AFEMSI has also been involved in medical research. "We've been involved in the development of a brain acoustic monitor for critical care and a time-phased study in St. Louis comparing methods of delivery for an antidote delivery system for chemical and biological agents," Major Dauerty said.





SPORTS

Services wins league golf crown, base playoffs underway

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Surviving a long hot summer and withering competition, Services defended its intramural golf crown by winning its third consecutive league championship. The team will attempt to dethrone the defending base intramural champion U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine during the playoffs that begin this week.

Also making the cut for the single elimination base championship tournament are the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence and the Air Force Research

Laboratory. Opening round play began Wednesday and will conclude with the base championship title game at 2 p.m., Sept. 28. The pairings for this week's playoff was Services against AFRL and USAFSAM team #1 against AFCEE. The intramural season concluded Sept. 14.

"We started with ten teams and finished with ten this year. Last year, we started with ten teams and finished with four," said Hosea Talbert, Brooks fitness center specialist in charge of the intramural golf program.

Also-rans that were eliminated from post-season consideration are the Army,

USAFSAM team #2, Air Force Institute for Occupational Health, the 68th Information Operations Squadron and the Mission Support Group.

Last year, USAFSAM defeated Services for the base crown, setting up this year's grudge match should both advance to the final round. "This is not strange territory for us," said Jose Valadez, a Services team veteran who has tasted victory numerous times. Services won both the league and base titles in 2003 and the league championship in 2001 and 2004.

Referring to playoff opponents, Valadez said, "These guys are all pretty

good. Anybody could win this (championship)."

Services co-captain Albert Merolli isn't taking any chances, stacking the team's playoff roster with '4-J' veterans – John McLendon, Jim Connell, Jeff Mylar and Jose Valadez. While it's a coincidence that their first names begin with the letter 'j,' the foursome are Services' best clutch golfers who plan to get a 'jump' on the competition. Historically, however, the base golf tournament has in recent years produced winners who've upset the top seed.

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Brooks hoop championship quest began in 1920



The 1920 Brooks Field varsity basketball team

File photo

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

The search for the Holy Grail has taken much longer. However, to the Brooks varsity basketball program, the quest for an elusive championship seems to have gone on forever.

For the past 85 seasons, varsity hoop teams here have been on a never-ending journey to claim hardcourt respectability. To a degree, Brooks basketball teams have achieved a modicum of success. Individual stars have flourished and there have been winning seasons. However, for all their efforts and the good intentions of a myriad of coaches, Brooks has yet to claim a basketball title.

The campaign to win a hoop crown began when the first varsity men's team was formed here in 1920. The team was composed of the best players from the four squadrons that were part of the primary flying school.

Most of the collegiate stars who had been drafted into the army during World War I had separated from the service by then. The good players who remained competed on the post

team against other Army Department league squads in Texas.

Not surprisingly, the bigger military installations had the larger talent pools and the better teams. Kelly and Randolph Field hoop squads became Brooks Field's nemesis almost from the very beginning of military basketball in the Lone Star State.

Early rivals also included the powerful Fort Sam Houston team composed of military policemen, the Stinson Field Pioneers and the Camp Normolye Tractors. The only team that Brooks consistently beat was the Hondo Navigators.

By 1941, the Brooks varsity quintet as they were called, had become consistently good, but not good enough to be champs.

During World War II, the varsity hoop season did not begin until January. By then, intramural basketball had concluded the first half of a two-part season that ended in February. The best intramural players were recruited to form two varsity men's teams, one for enlisted personnel and the other composed of officers.

The enlisted team, called the Ganders, was better than the officers' team, called the Express, due to a star-studded roster. The

Dec. 31, 1943 Brooks Observer newspaper reported, "Lieutenant Jack Spilke, varsity coach, has whipped together a smart, fast team, selecting the best men of the squadron hoop league for his team."

Among his star players was Corporal Red Youngren, a former USC Trojan hoop player; and Staff Sergeant Bill Chandler, a former Rice University basketball star. The Brooks men's teams played their home games in Hangar 16.

Meanwhile, the women's varsity basketball program was established at Brooks during WWII. It was called the WAC (Women's Army Corp) team. Its stars included Mildred Keathley and Elmora Smith who led their team to an inaugural winning season while playing most of their games at Woodlawn Court near Woodlawn Lake.

By the early 1980s, the Brooks men's squad, renamed the Blazers, played a spring and summer league schedule. Their summer league participation was the most challenging, playing games at the Jewish Community Center against teams composed of former college and professional players. Among their opponents

were Wali Jones, formerly with the Philadelphia '76ers, Bill Franklin, a former San Antonio Spurs star, Gil Salinas who was drafted by the Atlanta Hawks and Ralton Way who was drafted by the Washington Bullets.

Like their predecessors, the men's teams of the 1980s were consistently good, but not good enough to win a title. They built their hoop dreams on the likes of players with colorful names such as guards Tim 'Slick' Slate and Cornbread Floyd from the Air Base Group.

Their best player was Roy Main who earned most valuable player honors in 1980 at the Air Force Systems Command's Western Regional Tournament at Edwards AFB, Calif.

No Brooks hoop star has shined more brightly than the Lady Blazers' Connie Philon, the 5-foot-11 center who made the All-Air Force team in 1979. So dominant was Philon, that she led her team to the most lopsided victory in Brooks and San Antonio basketball history when the Lady Blazers defeated the Southwest Research Center Panthers 81-6.

Seven contenders open intramural flag football season

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

The seven intramural flag football teams that begin league play Tuesday will all be contending for the base championship in November, thanks to this year's playoff eligibility policy that allows every squad to advance to the postseason tournament.

"There will be a double elimination tournament to determine the base champ. The league champ will earn a bye for the first round of the playoffs," said Ronnie King, Brooks fitness center specialist in charge of the flag football program.

The season, originally scheduled to start this week, was pushed back to allow more teams to enter the competition, Mr. King explained. Games will be played Tuesdays and Thursday at 11 a.m. and noon. The season ends in October. Last year, the postseason tournament substituted for a regular season that had been cancelled.

The league will feature two teams from the 68th Information Operations Squadron, the combined Air Force Research Laboratory/Air Force Institute for Occupational Health, 311th Human Systems Wing, Mission Support Group, U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine and defending base champion Human Systems Group.

"We could have beaten them last year if it weren't for some bad calls by the umps," says AFRL/AFIOH player-coach Warren Benge about losing 22-8 to HSG in the base championship game.

Nearly everybody on Benge's team from last year is gone. The only returning veterans are Benge as a wide receiver/linebacker and Paul Singletary. The team will field Francisco Torres at quarterback, along with key player Justin Murphy, who was a varsity tight end/linebacker in his previous assignment at McConnell AFB, Kansas.